

Message Text

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44

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 AGR-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 EB-11 FRB-03 H-03 INR-11 INT-08 L-03 LAB-06

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 AID-20 CIEP-02 SS-20

STR-08 TAR-02 TRSE-00 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-03 FEAE-00

OMB-01 SWF-02 DRC-01 /198 W
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R 161300Z JUL 74

FM AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2733

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

UNCLAS LOURENCO MARQUES 0576

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIN, PINT, MZ

SUBJECT: IMPORT RESTRICTIONS EXTENDED BUT PORTUGUESE
MONOPOLIES ENDED

REF: LOURENCO MARQUES 530

1. PROHIBITION ON NEW IMPORT APPLICATIONS (REFTEL) HAS BEEN
EXTENDED, WITH SOME LIBERALIZATION, TO END OF JULY. NEW
LIST OF GOODS FOR WHICH IMPORT PERMITS MAY BE SOUGHT INCLUDES
MEDICINES AND MEDICAL SUPPLIES (INCLUDING INSTRUMENTS,
ORTHOPEDIC APPARATUS, AND X-RAY FILM), BABY FOOD, SPARE PARTS,
TIRES, FUEL AND LUBRICATING OIL, SEEDS, INSECTICIDES
AND HERBICIDES, BREEDING ANIMALS AND LIVESTOCK SUPPLIES),
TEXTBOOKS, NEWSPAPERS AND MAGAZINES OF GENERAL INTEREST,
PAPER (ESPECIALLY FOR PRINTING), RAW MATERIALS FOR EXPORT
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INDUSTRIES, CAPITAL GOODS WHICH WILL QUICKLY GENERATE FOREIGN

EXCHANGE, AND FOODSTUFFS NECESSARY FOR POPULATION. IMPORTERS ARE REQUESTED TO KEEP APPLICATIONS TO ABSOLUTE MINIMUM, AND NOT TO APPLY MORE THAN ONE MONTH BEFORE PERMITS ACTUALLY NEEDED.

2. SONAREP REFINERY REOPENING JULY 15 FOLLOWING ARRIVAL NEW CRUDE OIL SHIPMENT. IT HAD BEEN CLOSED SINCE JULY 1 (REFTTEL) FOR LACK OF EXCHANGE TO PAY FOR CRUDE.

3. MEANWHILE, DIRECTOR OF COMMERCIAL SERVICES HAS ANNOUNCED THE END OF "RESTRICTIONS ON IMPORTS FROM CERTAIN COUNTRIES", AUTHORIZING AND RECOMMENDING IMPORTERS TO CHOOSE CHEAPEST GOODS AND BEST FINANCIAL TERMS REGARDLESS OF COUNTRY OF ORIGIN. WHILE DETAILS STILL LACKING, THIS ENDS PORTUGUESE MONOPOLY ON CERTAIN PRODUCTS - MOST NOTABLY WINE - WHICH MOZAMBIQUE HAS NOT BEEN ALLOWED TO IMPORT FROM ANYWHERE BUT METROPOLE. FORMER RESTRICTIONS ON IMPORTS FROM COMMUNIST COUNTRIES ALSO APPEAR ENDED.

4. COMMENT: ECONOMY CONTINUES TO STAGGER ALONG, WITH INCREASING SHORTAGES AT ALL LEVELS, BUT ESPECIALLY IN INTERIOR. UNLESS PORTUGAL COMES UP WITH LONG-PROMISED LOANS, MOZAMBIQUE WILL HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL EXPORT EARNINGS START COMING IN LATER IN YEAR BEFORE ANY RESPITE CAN BE EXPECTED.
WALKER

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